

INTRODUCTION

The Examining Board of Professional Geologists, Hydrologists and Soil Scientists licenses and regulates the professions of geology, hydrology and soil science. It also regulates firms, partnerships and corporations which provide geological, hydrological and soil science services. The Board is composed of professional and public members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.

The Board conducts much of its business through 3 sub-units called “Sections” (the Professional Geologists Section, the Professional Hydrologists Section, and Professional Soil Scientists Section). Each section has 3 professional members and 1 public member.

The regulation of professional geologists, hydrologists and soil scientists was contained in 1997 Wisconsin Act 300. This act was published on June 30, 1998, except that certain provisions became effective on the day after publication. They related to board member appointments, the conversion of professional geologist registrations under the Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers and Land Surveyors to a license under the new board, the issuance of professional hydrologist and professional soil scientist licenses for several months without examination, and the promulgation of emergency rules. The issuance of licenses without examination to otherwise qualified applicants was permitted until December 31, 1999.

The Department of Regulation and Licensing is an umbrella agency providing administrative services to the various professional boards. Within the Department, the Bureau of Business and Design Professions provides administrative services to the Examining Board of Professional Geologists, Hydrologists and Soil Scientists. Requests for information or technical questions may be directed to the Board at 1400 East Washington Avenue, PO Box 8935, Madison WI 53708. Telephone number: (608) 266-5511 or TTY# (608) 267-2416 and TRS# 1-800-947-3529.

This book contains statutes and rules relevant to the regulation and practice of these professions in Wisconsin. The statutes relate to the structure and authority of the Board, the structure and authority of the Department of Regulation and Licensing, and the regulation of the practice of professional geology, hydrology and soil science in the state of Wisconsin. All administrative rules of the Board are included in this book.

The development of statutes and rules is ongoing. Therefore, these statutes and rules may be revised subsequent to the printing of this book. Most local libraries maintain current sets of the Wisconsin Statutes. Both statutes and rules are available at Web pages of the Wisconsin Legislature.

All Wisconsin Statutes and Administrative Codes are available on the Internet at the following addresses:

Statutes: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/statutes.html>

Rules: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/codtoc.html>